INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY **ISBA**

Council

Distr.
GENERAL

ISBA/C/10
14 November 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Resumed second session
Kingston, Jamaica
5-16 August 1996

Decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority concerning the relationship agreement between the International Seabed Authority and the United Nations

The Council of the International Seabed Authority,

Recalling article 162, paragraph 2 (f), of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides that the Council shall enter into agreements with the United Nations or other international organizations on behalf of the Authority and within its competence, subject to approval by the Assembly,

Noting that in its resolutions 49/28 and 50/28 dated respectively 6 December 1994 and 5 December 1995, the General Assembly expressed its satisfaction at the establishment of the International Seabed Authority and acknowledged that the Authority is an autonomous organization established under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,

Believing that the International Seabed Authority should strengthen and extend its working relationships with the United Nations and other international organizations,

Convinced that, in order to achieve effective coordination of the activities of the Authority and the United Nations and to avoid unnecessary duplication of their activities and services, it would be desirable for the Authority to enter into a relationship with the United Nations on terms to be determined by an agreement concluded between the two organizations,

Recognizing that a relationship agreement between the Authority and the United Nations should identify areas of mutual interest and facilitate close cooperation between the two organizations in those areas while preserving the autonomy of both organizations essential for the discharge of their responsibilities under their respective constituent instruments,

1. Requests the Secretary-General of the Authority to negotiate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations a relationship agreement between the International Seabed Authority and the United Nations taking into account the draft of such an agreement prepared by the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea;[1]

2. Decides that the negotiations will be under the guidance of the Council and that the agreement will be applied provisionally upon signature;

3. Decides also that the agreement shall enter into force on its approval by the Assembly of the Authority and the General Assembly of the United Nations.

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[1] Report of the Preparatory Commission under paragraph 11 of resolution I of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea ... (LOS/PCN/153 (Vol. V)), document LOS/PCN/WP.50/Rev.3.